BRITISH COLUMBIA
The Best Place on Earth

BC Stats

Infoline

Contact: bcstats.infoline@gov.bc.ca Issue: 10-39 October 1, 2010

- **BC's population increases 1.6% during the twelve month period ending July 1, 2010**
- **Food services and drinking places see receipts fall 1.9% in July**
- **Six in ten Canadians have not been vaccinated against H1N1**

Population

- **As of July 1, 2010, British Columbia's population was 4,530,960, an increase of nearly 1.6% compared to the same time last year.** Canada-wide, the population expanded 1.2%. Compared to other provinces, population growth was strongest in BC and Saskatchewan (+1.6%). Alberta (+1.4%) and Manitoba (+1.3%) also posted population growth rates above the national average.

  Data Source: SC Cat no. 91-215-X

- **During the second quarter of 2010, British Columbia's population increased 15,478 (+0.3%) with net international immigration (+11,547) responsible for the lion's share of the increase.** China was the largest contributing country, representing 17% of total immigrants to BC. Immigrants from the Philippines accounted for 16%, while those from India made up 15% of the total. Other countries such as England (6%), South Korea (5%), and Taiwan (4%) also contributed a significant number of immigrants to the province.

  British Columbia had the second highest net inter-provincial migration gain (+1,962) in the country after Alberta (+2,820), receiving migrants from all regions in Canada except Nunavut. Ontario (+1,046) and Manitoba (+527) contributed the most in terms of net interprovincial migration.

  Natural increase (the excess of births over deaths) added 3,377 persons to the population. *Data Source: SC Cat no. 91-002-X*

The Economy

- **Revenues of the food services and drinking places industry dropped 1.9% (*seasonally adjusted*) in July.** Drinking places posted the largest decline (-2.9%) while food service establishments saw revenues retreat 1.9%. Nationally, the industry registered a 1.3% dip in receipts with BC (-1.9%), Quebec (-1.5%), Alberta (-1.4%), Ontario (-1.4%) and Nova Scotia (-0.7%) all recording weaker sales in July.

  It should be noted that July marked the first month for which the Harmonized Sales Tax (HST) was collected in BC and Ontario. Also in July, Nova Scotia's existing HST rate was increased by 2 percentage points to 15%.

  Data Source: Statistics Canada

Health

- **By April 2010, approximately 41% of Canadians aged 12 years and older (11.6 million people) had received an H1N1 flu vaccination.**[1] In general, women (45%) were more likely than men (37%) to report having been vaccinated. Among the provinces Ontario (32%) had the lowest rate of vaccination, followed by British Columbia (36%), Alberta (37%) and Manitoba (37%). The highest rate of H1N1 vaccination was reported in Newfoundland and Labrador (69%).

  Of the 59% of Canadians aged 12 years and older that did *not* receive an H1N1 flu vaccination (16.5 million), nearly three-quarters

[1] These figures exclude persons living in the territories.

Report British Columbia Population Projections: P.E.O.P.L.E. 35

Did you know...

At Thanksgiving 2009, 2.9 million whole turkeys were purchased by Canadians, equal to 28% of all whole turkeys that were sold over the year.

Data Source: Turkey Farmers of Canada

(74%) cited that the reason for not getting the shot was that they "did not think it was necessary". Men (76%) were slightly more likely than women (73%) to hold this opinion. Other reasons for not getting the H1N1 vaccination included "have not gotten around to it" (13%), fear (7%) and lack of access (3%).

Data Source: SC Cat no. 82-003-XPE

Labour

- **In 2009/2010, nearly half (45%) of full-time postsecondary students were employed during the academic year.** This was considerably larger than the share of full-time students employed during the 1976/1977 academic year (26%). Throughout the last 35 years, women have been more likely than men to be employed during the school year. In 2009/2010, half (50%) of female full-time postsecondary students were employed during their studies compared with 40% of male students.

  The number of hours worked by full-time postsecondary students has also increased over the past 35 years. In 1976/1977, students worked an average of 15.2 hours per week. That number slowed considerably during the late 1970s and early 1980s to a low of 13.6 hours per week by 1983/1984. Since then, average weekly hours have climbed, reaching a peak of 16.5 hours per week in 2006/2007. In the past couple of years, this figure has shrunk, likely related to the slowdown in the economy at that time. While women in full-time studies were more likely to work than men, men typically worked more hours during the week. In 2009/2010, male students worked an average of 16.7 hours per week while female students worked 15.3 hours per week. *Data Source: SC Cat no. 75-001-X*

Internet Use

- **In 2009, approximately 39% of Canadians used the Internet to place orders for goods and services.** Roughly 95 million orders worth $15.1 billion were placed by Canadian households, averaging $159 per order, down from $183 two years earlier.

  The type of items purchased depended on the characteristics of the consumer. More than half (54%) of those over the age of 44 reported buying travel services. Meanwhile, online shoppers under the age of 25 most often (43%) ordered clothing, jewellery or accessories. Men (28%) were more than twice as likely as women (13%) to purchase electronics via the Internet. *Data Source: Statistics Canada*

Tobacco Use

- **In 2009, just under one in five (18%) Canadians 15 years of age and older reported smoking either daily or occasionally, a rate that has remained unchanged since 2005.** The current smoking rate for youths aged 15 to 19 was 13% with a higher proportion of males (15%) than females (11%) claiming at least occasional tobacco use. Among young adults aged 20 to 24 years, the rate of tobacco use dropped to 23% from 27% in 2008. For those aged 25 years and older, the current smoking rate remained unchanged at 17%.

  At the provincial level, smoking rates for those aged 15 years and older ranged from a low of 15% in British Columbia to a high of 22% in Saskatchewan. *Data Source: Statistics Canada*

The Nation

- **Canada's real gross domestic product edged down 0.1% in July, the first monthly decline registered since August 2009.** Mining and oil & gas extraction (+1.1%) posted a strong recovery from the previous month's decline (-0.5%), which was entirely driven by a surge in activity in the mining industry (+8.2%). However, the increase was overshadowed by declines in manufacturing (-0.7%), construction (-0.5%) and retail trade (-0.5%).

Data Source: SC Cat no. 15-001-X

Infoline Issue: 10-39
October 1, 2010

For data originating from Statistics Canada, data sourced to 'Statistics Canada' has been retrieved from CANSIM, the agency's electronic database; otherwise the source is identified as 'SC' plus the catalogue number.

Infoline Report

Contact: Jennifer Hansen
(250) 387-0337

British Columbia Population Projections: P.E.O.P.L.E. 35

The increasing size and changing characteristics of our population creates shifting demand for public services such as schools, medical and care facilities, and transportation systems. As well, marketing strategies of businesses are greatly influenced by the size and structure of the population. As a result, reliable population projections are an essential tool to provide reasonable scenarios of our future growth for planners in both the private and public sectors. However, it should be emphasized that, as with any projection or forecast, this projection represents only what could happen given the assumptions, not what absolutely will happen.

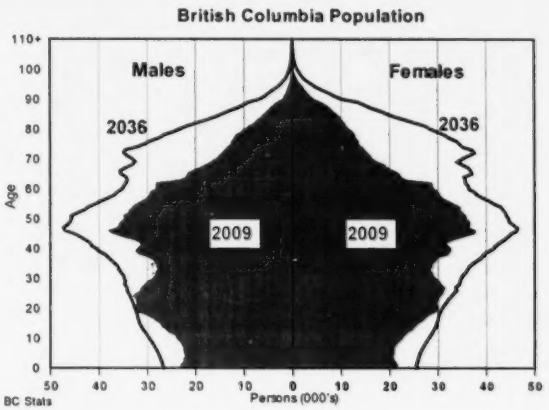
British Columbia faces unique challenges within Canada, as it increases its share of the national population. Some of the major issues emerging in our province include:

- managing population growth that is putting pressure on our urban communities from increasing densification and rural areas declining in population and aging rapidly;
- a health care system that must meet the needs of a growing and aging population; and
- economic and income disparities between our province's regions and people.

The following are some demographic highlights from PEOPLE Projection 35:

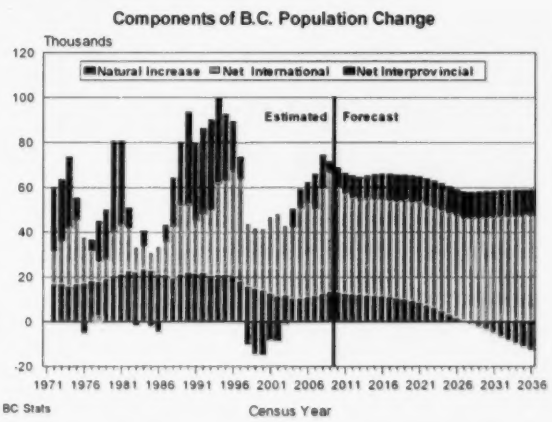
PEOPLE 35 (Population Extrapolation for Organizational Planning with Less Error) is BC Stats' latest population projection. This projection covers the period 2010 to 2036, with information available for numerous provincial geographies including Local Health Area, Health Service Delivery Area, Health Authority, School District, College Region, Regional District and Development Region. Projection details are available at http://www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/pop/popstart.asp

Becoming an older population



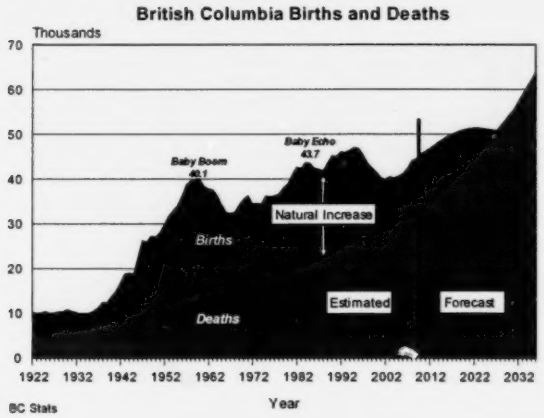
The British Columbia population is getting larger and older. Between 2009 and 2036, the population will increase by about 36%. The median age of the population will increase from 40.7 to 45.6 years.

Migration the most important factor



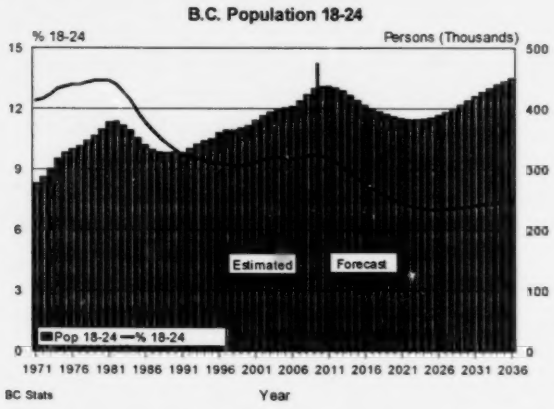
The major factor driving population growth over this period will be migration to British Columbia. International migration will account for 75.8% of the population gain, followed by interprovincial migration at 18.4%, and natural increase (births minus deaths) at about 5.8%.

Deaths will surpass births



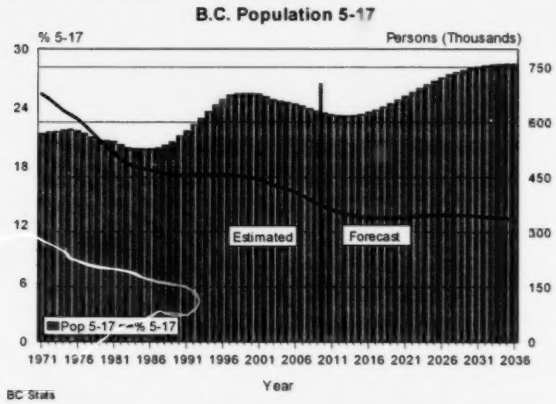
Even though the number of births in British Columbia will continue to rise, the contribution of natural increase to the overall population growth will decline. By 2029 the number of deaths is expected to exceed the number of births.

Post-secondary cohort dynamic



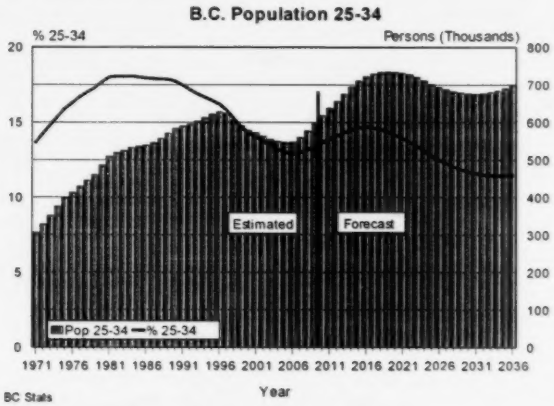
Apart from the first two years, the post-secondary school age (18-24 years) population will show declining numbers up to 2023, but then increase through to the end of the projection. The group's share of total population will continue to decline until the last ten years of the projection period.

Declining share of school age group

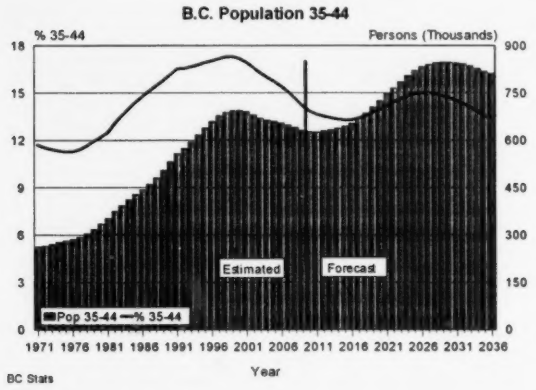


The school age (5-17 years) population will decline slightly over the next four years, but will then begin a slow increase up to current levels by 2017. However, the school aged population will make up a progressively smaller proportion of the overall population of the province, dropping from 14% in 2009 to 12.5% in 2036.

Growth and decline

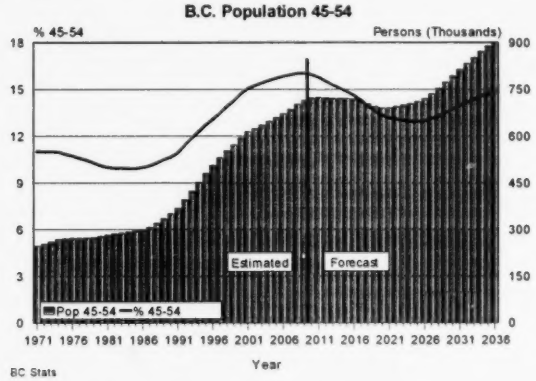


The population aged 25-34, which is generally associated with first time household formation and entry into the core working ages, is expected to increase in absolute numbers for the first decade of the projection, then decline until the last few years of the projection period.



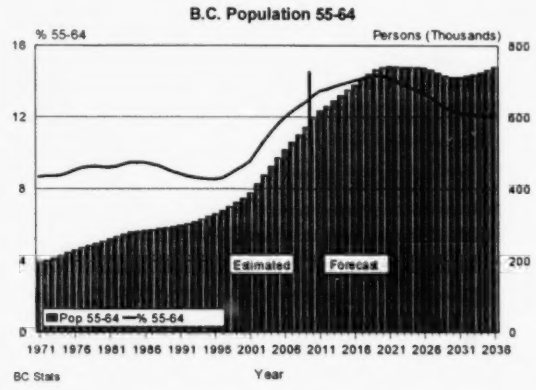
Core Working Age

The population currently aged 35-44 includes those considered part of the core working age cohort. Overall, the population in this age group is expected to show steady growth over most of the projection, but will start to shrink around 2030.



Competition for top positions

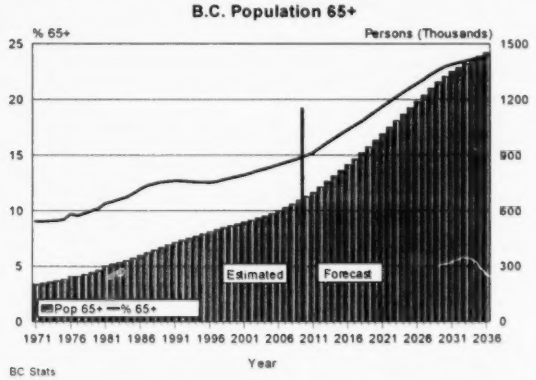
The mature labour force age (45-54 years) population has shown high growth over the last two decades, based on the influence of an aging baby boom generation and migration. This will have repercussions on the labour force, especially in terms of meeting career goals. Many people in this age group have competed for a limited number of higher level jobs, a situation that should ease slightly after 2015 with the declining absolute number and share of the group relative to the total population. In the last 15 years of the projection,



the magnitude of this age group will increase again, along with its share of the total population.

Early retirement options

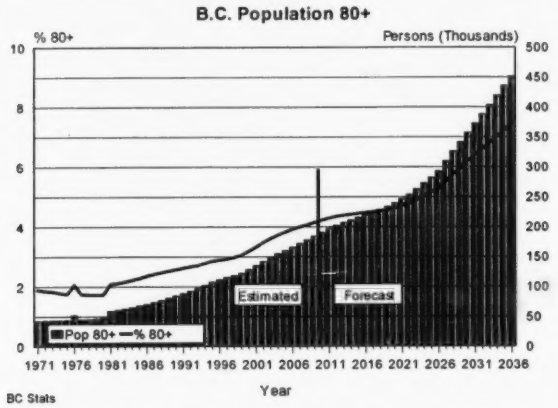
Both the share and size of the 55-64 age group will increase strongly until around 2021. If greater numbers in this age group opt for early retirement (before 65) the impact may be felt by increased turnover in the labour market and greater demand for retirement housing and services.



Senior age group becoming larger

The overall retirement age (65+) population count and its share of total population will continue to increase significantly over the projection period (from 14.7 per cent in 2009 to 24.0 per cent in 2036). This will result in a significant increase in regionally focused demand for community services for this age group.

Health costs rise with longevity



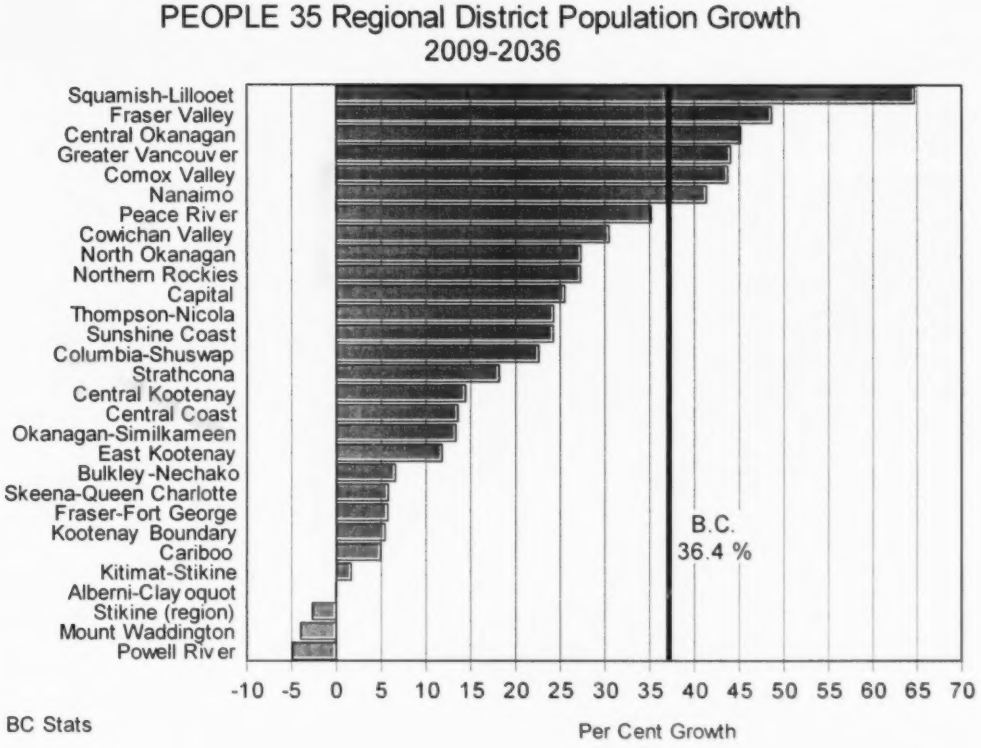
The very senior (80+) population will also increase significantly, growing from 4.1 per cent of the population in 2009 to 7.4 per cent in 2036. This increase will have a significant impact on health care expenditures given the higher per capita health costs associated with people older than 80.

Contact: Jennifer Hansen
(250) 387-0337

British Columbia Regional Population Projections

Regional District Population Growth

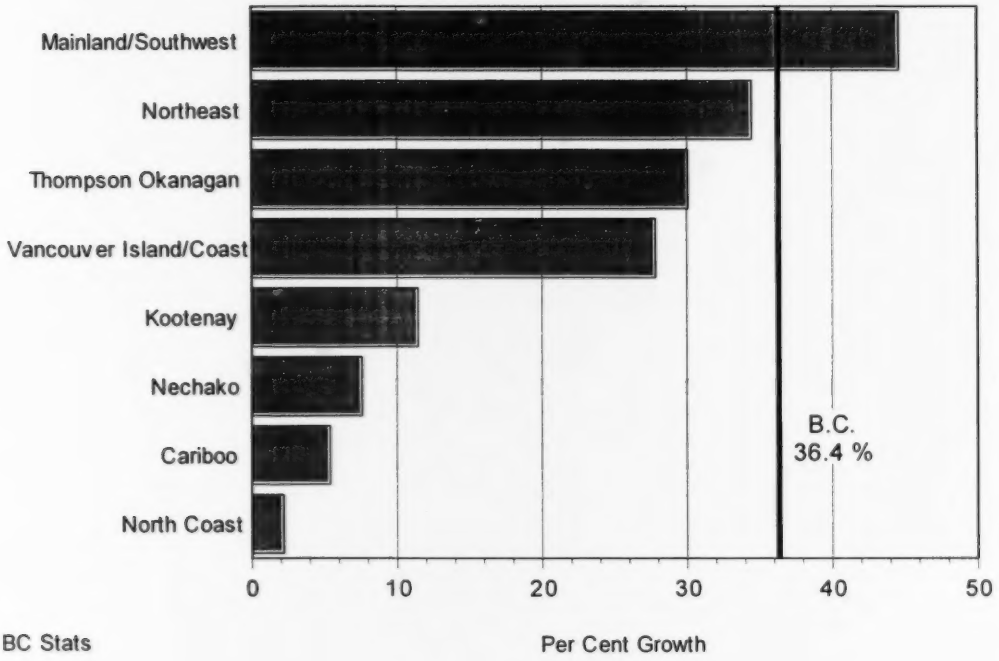
There are substantial disparities with respect to projected growth among the 29 British Columbia Regional Districts. The coastal regions of the province will likely see slower growth rates than most other regions in the province.



Development Region Population Growth

The Mainland-Southwest region is expected to experience healthy growth over the 2009 to 2036 period. Slower growth in the other regions is largely due to reductions in natural resource extraction and processing activity. The Northeast region is expected to benefit from activities in the energy sector.

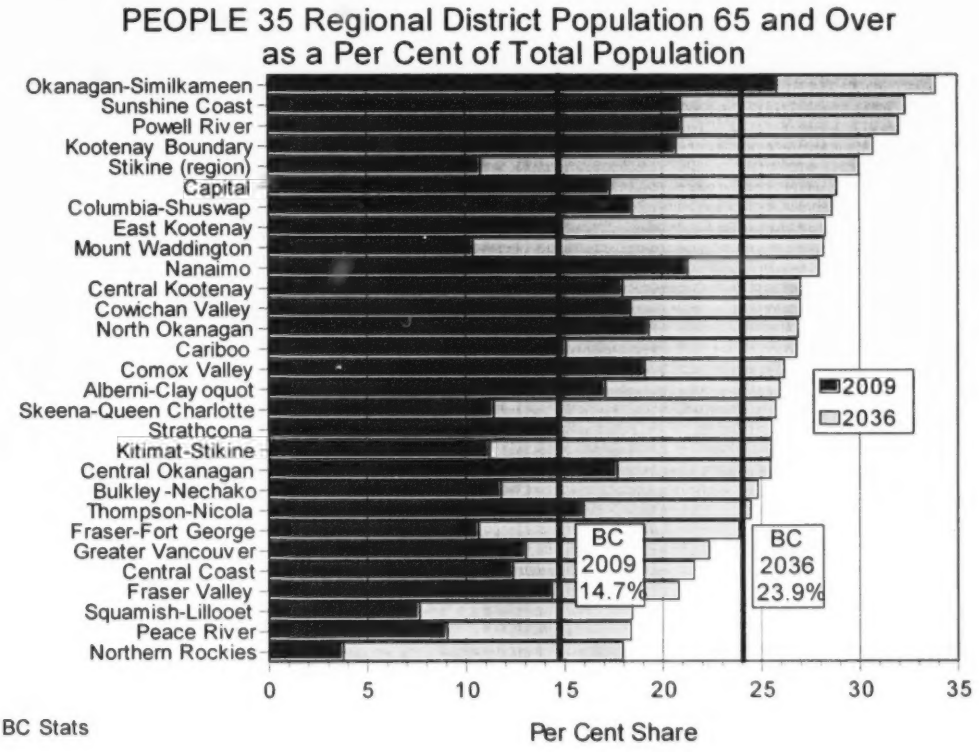
PEOPLE 35 Development Region Population Growth
2009-2036



Regional District Population 65+

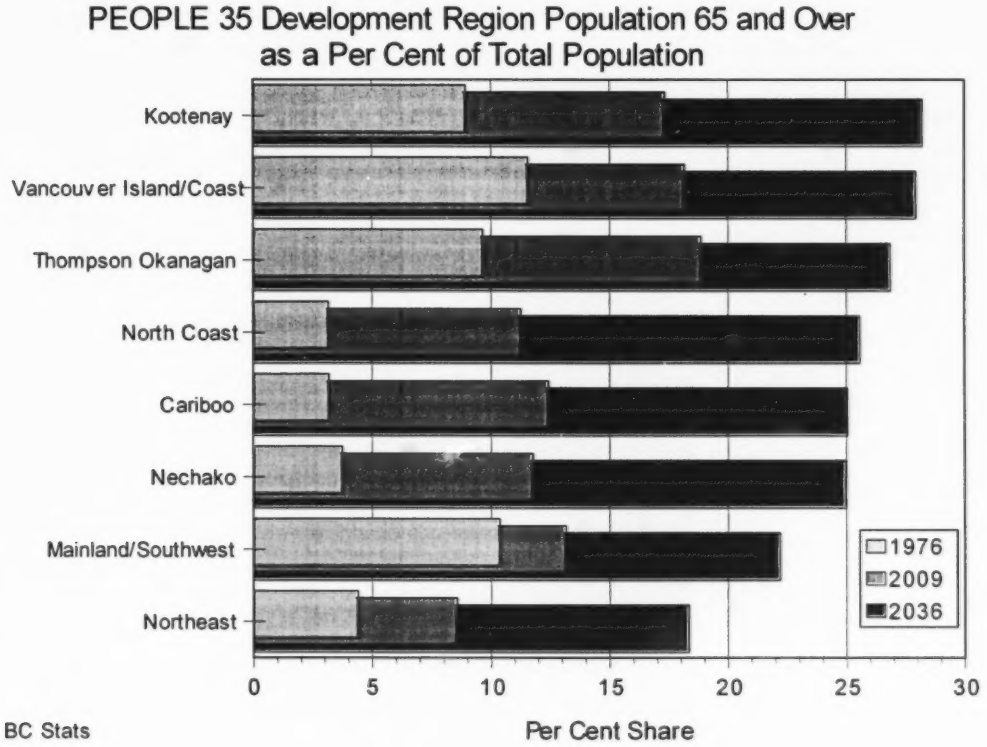
There are regional differences with respect to age as well. Currently, the population 65 and over (as a percent of total population) is much smaller in most of the remote areas, and greater in the more populous, southern regions of the province. This is largely a combination of the greater access to services (particularly those related to health care) in the larger centres, and the more pleasant climate of the southern regions, which attracts the elderly looking for a place to retire.

The Regional District chart indicates that some regions will experience proportionately larger increases in the per cent of population over 65. In many of these cases, this is the result of differential rates of migration to or from an area. Migrants tend to be younger than the population at large. Hence, in regions of high net inflows of population the aging process is slowed. Alternatively, where there is a net outflow, population aging accelerates.



Development Region Population 65+

On a larger scale, the Development Regions show a similar pattern of a more aged population in the south. However, the regions to the north will see proportionately larger increases in the share of the population over 65.



Infoline

October 1, 2010
Issue 10–39

Email transmission information service from BC Stats

also on the Internet at www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca or choose RSS

BC at a glance . . .

POPULATION (thousands)	Jul 1/2010	% change on one year ago
BC	4,531.0	1.6
Canada	34,108.8	1.2
GDP and INCOME (Revised Nov 9)		
(BC - at market prices)	2008	% change on one year ago
Gross Domestic Product (GDP) *($ millions)*	197,931	3.3
GDP *($ 2002 millions)*	164,520	0.0
GDP *($ 2002 per Capita) (reflects revised pop)*	37,529	-1.7
Personal Disposable Income *($ 2002 per Capita)*	25,931	3.2
TRADE ($ millions, seasonally adjusted)		% change on prev. month
Manufacturing Shipments - Jul 2010	3,003	-2.9
Merchandise Exports - Jul 2010	2,386	-4.8
Retail Sales - Jul 2010	4,786	-0.4
CONSUMER PRICE INDEX	% change on	12-month avg
(all items - Aug 2010)	one year ago	% change
BC	1.5	0.6
Vancouver	1.8	0.9
Victoria	1.2	0.3
Canada	1.7	1.2
LABOUR FORCE (thousands)		
(seasonally adjusted)	Aug 2010	% change on prev. month
Jobs Created (Lost) - BC NEW!	5.4	
Labour Force - BC	2,502.1	0.0
Employed - BC	2,320.6	0.2
Unemployed - BC	181.5	-3.4
		Jul 2010
Unemployment Rate - BC *(percent)*	7.3	7.5
Unemployment Rate - Canada *(percent)*	8.1	8.0
INTEREST RATES (percent)	Sep 29/2010	Sep 30/2009
Prime Business Rate	3.00	2.25
Conventional Mortgages - 1 year	3.30	3.70
- 5 year	5.39	5.49
US-CANADA EXCHANGE RATE	Sep 29/2010	Sep 30/2009
(avg. noon spot rate) Cdn $ per US $	1.0300	1.0722
(closing rate) US $ per Cdn $	0.9671	0.9340
AVERAGE WEEKLY WAGE RATE		
(industrial aggregate - dollars)	Aug 2010	% change on one year ago
BC	836.22	3.7
Canada	826.47	2.3

SOURCES:

Population, Gross Domestic Product, Trade, Prices, Labour Force, Wage Rate } Statistics Canada

Interest Rates, Exchange Rates: Bank of Canada Weekly Financial Statistics

For latest Weekly Financial Statistics see www.bankofcanada.ca

Open Data extends to Quarterly Regional Statistics and Country Trade Profiles

This completes the initial phase of a project to offer Excel/CSV equivalents for files previously available only in PDF format. The files are available through our Area Profiles page.

www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/dd/profiles.asp

Labour Force Participation Rate Projections

The model uses an entry-exit rate methodology to project age/sex-specific participation rates by age cohort—i.e., people of the same generation—for the period 2010–2036. This approach, which was pioneered by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, takes into account the wide differences in participation among cohorts and generates projections that are more plausible than the alternative age group extrapolation approach.

www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/lss/labour.asp#pubs

PEOPLE 35 Pop Projection Highlights

PEOPLE 35 (Population Extrapolation for Organizational Planning with Less Error) population projections are now available. This latest population projection covers the period 2010 to 2036, with information available for numerous provincial geographies including Local Health Area, Health Service Delivery Area, Health Authority, School District, College Region, Regional District and Development Region. Access the release article 2036 BC, which provides some PEOPLE35 highlights, or view projection details on our website (total population) or through the webstore (details age/sex projection packages).

www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca/data/pop/pop/popproj.asp

Released this week by BC Stats

- Population Highlights, 2nd Quarter

Next week

- Business Indicators, September 2010
- Tourism Sector Highlights, September 2010
- Quarterly Regional Statistics, 2nd Quarter 2010
- Labour Force Statistics, September 2010
- Earnings & Employment Trends, Sept. 2010

BC Stats, Box 9410 Stn Prov Govt, Victoria, B.C. V8W 9V1

Tel: 250-387-0327 Fax: 250-387-0380 Web: www.bcstats.gov.bc.ca E-mail: BC.Stats@gov.bc.ca